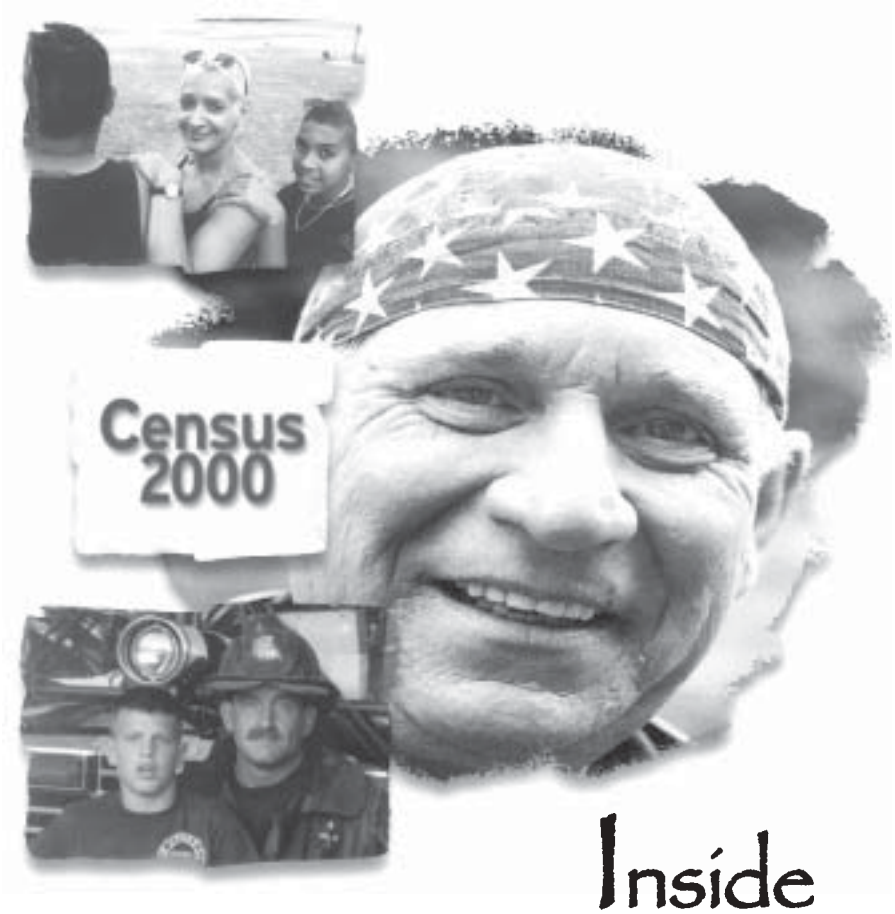
TrendLines

Perspectives on Utah's Economy

September/October 2002



Inside

Utah's Job Connection

TrendLines is published by the Workforce Information Division of the Utah Department of Workforce Services.

Executive Director
Raylene Ireland

Workforce Information Director
Ron Ahlstrom

Production Team

Editor-in-Chief
Kimberley Bartel

Editors
Mark Knold
Lecia Parks Langston

Coordination
Connie Blaine

Internet Publication
Kevin Olsen

Distribution
Jennifer Kramer

Newsletter Design
Lecia Parks Langston

Table of Contents

Features

In Every Issue

Contributors

Kimberley Bartel

Kim is the Manager for the Workforce Information Division of the Department of Workforce Services (DWS). She has worked for the Department of Workforce Services for 11 years. She worked as an economist for seven years before she began working in management. Kim Bartel earned a B.A. in economics and a B.A. in political science at the University of Utah. She also holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Utah.

Connie Blaine

Connie Blaine is the Economic Information Coordinator for the Utah Department of Workforce Services. She oversees the publication, distribution and marketing of the Department's labor market information products and the Economic Information website: *http://jobs.utah.gov/wi*. Connie has previously been a DWS employment counselor, an Office of Family Support worker, and an elementary school teacher. She is a native of Utah, a graduate of the University of Utah and has lived mostly in Moab and Salt Lake City.

Kristine Dobson

Kristine Dobson is the self-appointed Princess of Utah Choices. She contracts with various agencies to ensure the delivery of quality career information to students and adults in transition. She currently works with Dr. Lynn Jensen and Utah's Career Resource Network, and has served as the editor of the *Utah Career Guide* (soon to be renamed the *Student Career Guide*). Kris also helps to develop content for the career guidance software products published by Bridges.com. She is an active member of the Association of Computer-Based Systems of Career Information (ACSCI), currently serving as the Awards Chair. Prior to being the princess, Kris Dobson worked in Granite School District as a teacher, counselor, and the coordinator of vocational assessment services.

Mark Knold

Mark is the Senior Economist for the Utah Department of Workforce Services. Mark has an M.S. and a B.S. in economics from the University of Utah. He also serves on committees that advise the Governor, community and economic development agencies, and the training and curriculum activities of colleges, universities, and applied technology centers.

John T. Mathews

John is the Northern Regional Economist for the Department of Workforce Services where he has been employed as an economist for 27 years. His primary areas of responsibility include the preparation of Utah's occupational employment projections, and wage and career information. John conducts various research studies and provides labor market training. He has a B.S. and an M.S. in Economics from the U of U and has served as an Assistant Adjunct Professor of Economics at the U of U, and is an Economics Faculty at University of Phoenix.

Lecia Parks Langston

Lecia Langston is the Western Regional Economist for the Department of Workforce Services, and lives in St. George. Lecia has been an economist with the state for more than 20 years. During that time, she was Chief Economist for the Department of Employment Security for six years, has served as a president of the Wasatch Front Economic Forum, has staffed Governor Bangerter's Workforce 2000 Committee, and is a past advisor of the Governor's Economic Coordinating Committee.

Jerry O'Donnell

Jerry O'Donnell is the Public Information Officer for the U.S. Census Bureau in Denver, Colorado. He is a graduate of Utah State University. Jerry is responsible for providing information services and training programs to the data-user public. He has authored a number of Census publications and has prepared many articles on the use of Census data. He is the recipient of the U.S. Department of Commerce's Highest Award—the Bronze Medal.

Renada Peery

Renada Peery is a lead Data Analyst in the division of Workforce Information for the State of Utah's Department of Workforce Services. Her primary responsibilities include managing and analyzing employment and wage data for the Current Employment Statistics (CES) program. Renada is new to the Department of Workforce Services. Her work experience includes working as a Research Manager for The Gazette in Colorado Springs, Colorado, and an Assistant Auditor for the City of Arlington, Texas. Renada has a Masters in Public Administration from New Mexico State University.

Austin R. Sargent

Austin has been a regional economist with the Department of Workforce Services for four years. Prior to that he was a research economist for fourteen years at the Bureau of Economic and Business Research at the University of Utah. He is currently an associate member of the Governor's Council of Economic Advisors. He is a graduate of the University of Utah with a Masters in Public Administration and a Bachelor's Degree in political science.

A Letter to Our Readers

Dear Readers,

It has been like Christmas for data lovers as detailed 2000 Census material becomes available. You can't imagine how excited economists and data analysts can get over this wealth of information. The Census is only conducted every ten years and no other data source is as comprehensive.

The Census is a foundation. It provides a profile of the population that helps experts identify and understand important trends related to issues such as poverty and education. Census information is used as a planning and decision-making tool by both the private and public sectors. The federal government relies on census data to allocate funding and to distribute seating in the House of Representatives. State and local governments use it to distribute resources and make planning strategies. Nonprofit organizations and businesses use it for planning and marketing.

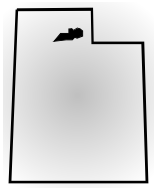
The Census, required by the Constitution, has evolved dramatically since it was first conducted in 1790. It took 18 months to tally the Country's population at 3,929,214. Since then, more information has been collected, providing a detailed profile of the United States.

This issue of TrendLines offers a glimpse of what the Census is and what it means. If our Census spotlight tweaks your curiosity, you might want to visit the Census Bureau's website at *www.census.gov.*

Sincerely,

Kimberley Bartel
Editor-in-Chief

Weber



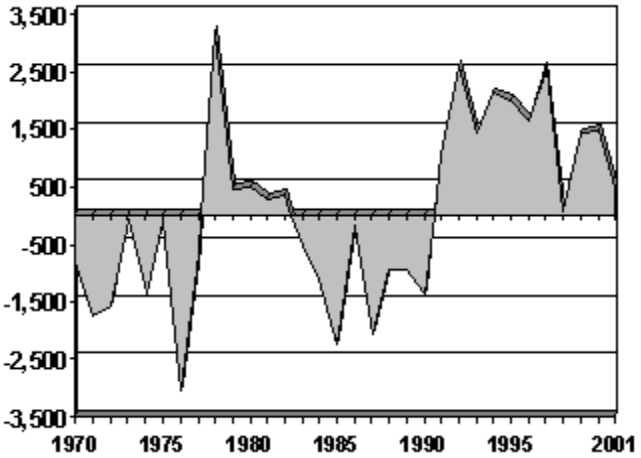
County Highlight

by John T. Mathews

Weber County, home of "Hub City" - Ogden, was thrust into the international spotlight with the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. Snowbasin hosted the premier event of alpine skiing – the downhill. This ultimate "on-the-edge" speed event put "the Basin" on the world map.

Weber County is a solid contributor to Utah's economy. Industry drivers of the county's economy are manufacturing, retail trade, and government. Manufacturing employers, while employing 16 percent of all nonfarm workers, accounted for 24 percent – almost a fourth – of total payroll dollars.

Weber County Population Net Migration



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

For more information about Weber County, check out: http://jobs.utah.gov/wi Click on "State, County and Local Information"

- ✗ **Weber County is ranked 28th in Utah landmass, yet claims the 4th position in population.**
- ✗ **Since 1990, population grew by about 38,000 to nearly 200,000 in 2000.**
- ✗ **In 2000, of those 25 years and older, 20 percent of Weber County residents were college graduates, and 85 percent of the county total had graduated from high school.**
- ✗ **Home of Weber State University (the Wildcats), Eccle's Dinosaur Park, the Ice Sheet, the Ogden Raptors (pro baseball), and Pine View Reservoir.**

State & Metro Highlights

By Mark Knold

Initial signs indicate that the Utah economic slowdown may have reached its low point. The economy is still in the midst of recession-like characteristics, but layoff activity has declined statewide as has initial unemployment insurance activity. The unemployment rate has inched lower, registering 4.7 percent in June. Business announcements in the newspapers and other media have been increasingly upbeat.

But the employment numbers are still on the low side. Year-over for June, Utah's employment is down 1.6 percent, or 17,200 positions. Often times, employment is a lagging indicator, meaning the economy can be in the initial stages of recovery but it takes several months before this translates into a noticeable up-tick in hiring.

The state's metropolitan areas are slumping. The Salt Lake-Ogden employment count is down 1.3 percent in June while the Provo-Orem area stands out with a decline of 2.0 percent. Why is Provo-Orem suffering more? The closure of Geneva Steel is one factor, but this county had approximately 9 percent of its employment in the high-technology arena (compared with Salt Lake-Ogden's 6 percent), and high-technology has disproportionately suffered in this current downturn. In fact, the high-technology economic adjustments can be cited as a leading cause of the national downturn.

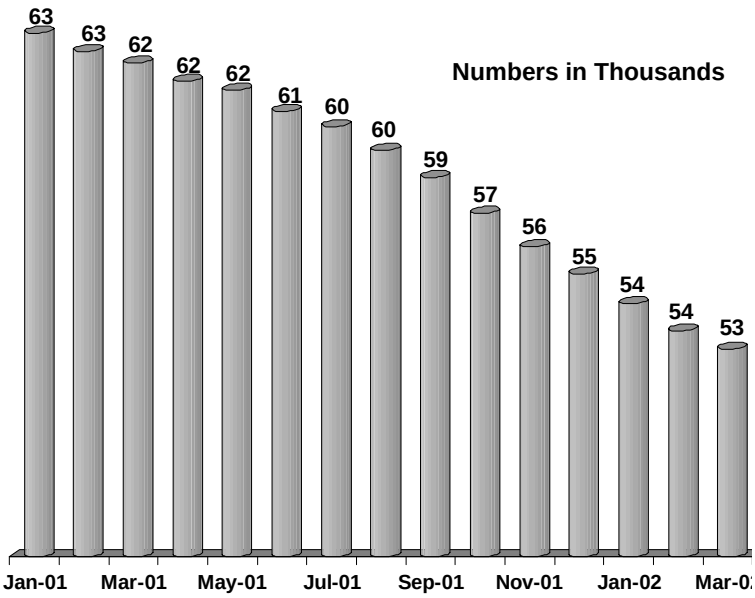
So let's look at high-technology in Utah. Although the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) doesn't define a high-technology sector, it does allow an analyst to create a concise definition.

*Industries Identified as High Technology**

- **Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing**
- **Software Publishers**
- **Internet Publishing and Broadcasting**
- **Telecommunications**
- **Internet Service Providers, Search Portals, and Data Processing**
- **Engineering Services**
- **Testing Laboratories**
- **Computer Systems Design and Related Services**
- **Scientific Research and Development Services**
- **Computer Training**
- **Electronic Equipment Repair and Maintenance**

*Using the North American Industry Classification System.

Utah High-Tech Employment



Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services

For more information about Utah's economy, check out: http://jobs.utah.gov/wi

Using data from March 2002 (the best available *detailed* data), the high-technology industry employs around 53,000 Utahns. But this is down by approximately 9,500 since March 2001. Six-thousand two-hundred job losses are in the Salt Lake-Ogden metro area, and 2,700 in the Provo-Orem area. While Salt Lake-Ogden lost more, the Provo-Orem area's smaller economy suffered the greater impact.

High-technology emerged as a major industry in American during the 1990's. As new industries develop, the boundaries of their markets (the balance between supply and demand) are unknown. It is inevitable that to "discover" this boundary, newly-emerging markets overshoot it. When they do, a correction occurs until the market is brought back into alignment. High-technology is currently undergoing this realignment.

What's Up?

- **Utah hotels reported slightly higher occupancy rates last month than they did in June 2001. As in April and May, average room rates also were up from a year earlier. The occupancy rate statewide was 69.1 percent in June, compared with 67.2 percent the previous June. *The Salt Lake Tribune 7/16/02***

- **A new study by a national high-technology journal indicates Utah's governmental and private sector commitment to building its telecommunications infrastructure is paying off: Salt Lake City ranks as among the nation's most Internet-accessible cities. *The Salt Lake Tribune 7/10/02***

- **NASA said it has extended until May 2007 its six-and-a-half-year, $2.4-billion contract with ATK Thiokol Propulsion in Brigham City for the production and refurbishment of 70 reusable solid rocket motors for the space shuttle program. *The Salt Lake Tribune 7/02/02***

I$ there MONEY in Utah?

Census says — YES!

By Renada Peery

Few other words are more exciting to me than the word – CENSUS. Granted, I work for Workforce Information as a Senior Data Analyst, so numbers are something I tend to like very much. I enjoy going on-line to *www.census.gov* just to explore the vast amount of data. You can find data on just about anything: age, occupation, ethnicity, family size, industry, commuting to work, etc. However, the one bit of information I enjoy most is income.

Right now, the most current figures on income from the Census Bureau come from the 2000 Census and the Current Population Survey (CPS). No one covers the subject of income more thoroughly than the Census Bureau. They collect income statistics based on money earned before taxes, and then analyze it every way imaginable. This leads data lovers like me to discover all sorts of interesting tidbits on income.

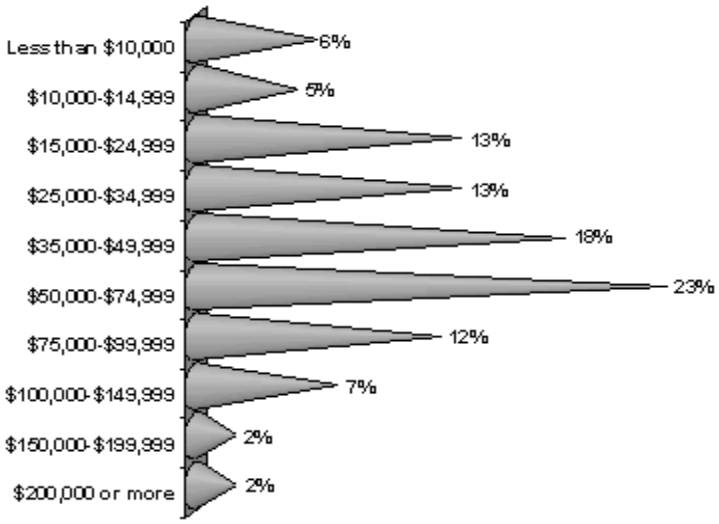
Pleasantly Surprised

Utah ranked 11th in the United States for median household income in 2000 at $45,230. In fact, between 1992-2000, Utah had a median household income higher than the national average. This is pretty good when you find out the median household income in the United States was at an all time high in 2000 at $42,148.

Median Household Income

Good News - Bad News

Sixty-four percent of people age 15 and older that worked in Utah earned $35,000-plus in 2000. Also in 2000, median family income was $51,585 in Utah. However, the median earnings for females was $14,133 less than for males ($14,131 compared to $28,264). Males within the occupation of "professional specialty" had a median income of $58,363 while their female counterparts had a median income of $39,319.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

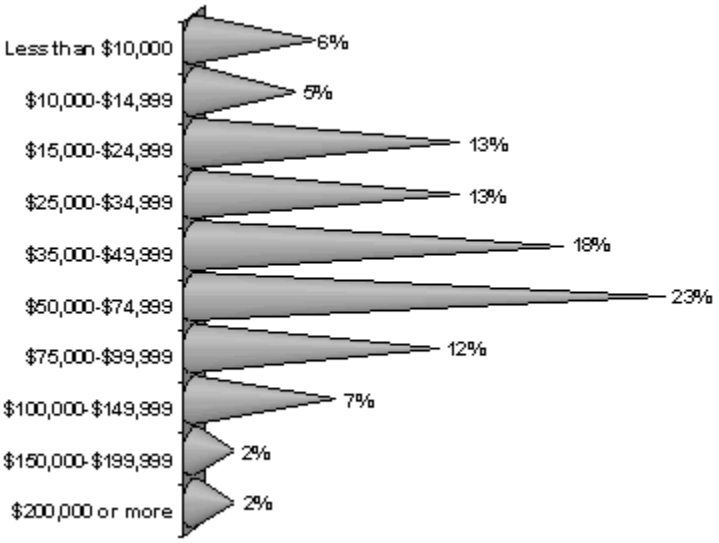
Interesting Discovery

Utah's per capita income was $17,701 in 2000. This is substantially less than the national per capita income of $22,199. However, per capita income for the state can be misleadingly low because of how it is calculated. Per capita income is the average income computed for every man, woman, and child in the state of Utah. Since Utah has lots of kids, this lowers our number. You can find more information on per capita income by counties in Utah at *http://wi.dws.state.ut.us.*

So I admit I find the Census information on income to be fascinating. It gives me perspective on where I live and also lets me measure myself against others. Bottom line – the information lets me reaffirm that I made a pretty good decision in moving to Utah.

For more information on income, check out the Census web site at *www.census.gov/hhes/www/income*.

1999 Distribution of Utah Household Income



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

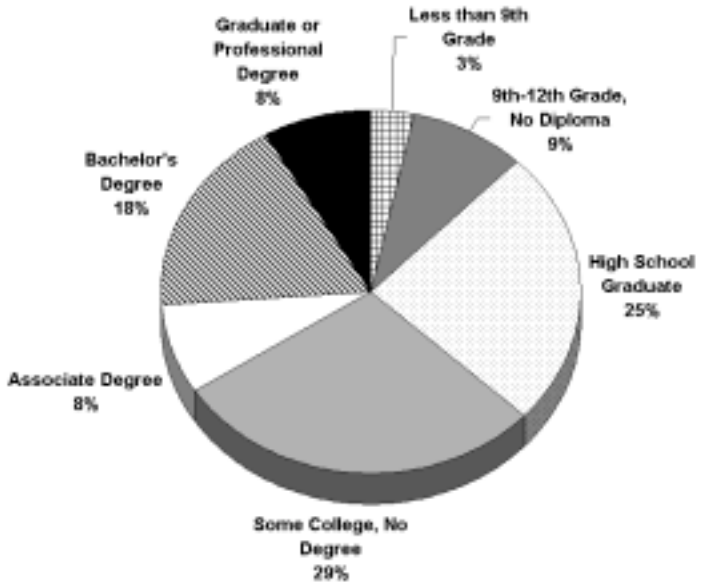
Making the Grade

Educational Attainment in Utah

By Lecia Parks Langston

Utah has lots of kids to educate. Utah has low per pupil spending. But, Utah has always prided itself on its high educational attainment. And, rightly so. Educational attainment rates for both high school and college graduation have ranked higher than the national average for decades. Moreover, the educational attainment of Utah's residents has increased steadily over the years. Recently released data from Census 2000 shows that Utah still continues that trend.

Utah Population 25 & Over by Educational Attainment



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Okay, we start throwing numbers around, lets talk about what they mean. These figures measure the educational attainment for that part of the population that is 25 years and older—your basic adult. In other words, don't be using these numbers as "high school drop out rates." Also, the "high school diploma" figures include everyone who graduated from high school or received their GED.

High School Heaven

In 1950, half of Utah's adult population had earned at

least a high school diploma. This might seem low. But, keep in mind that many of that day's older generation had quit school to earn a living instead of a diploma—particularly in farming communities. Fast forward 50 years and the share of high school graduates had increased to 88 percent.

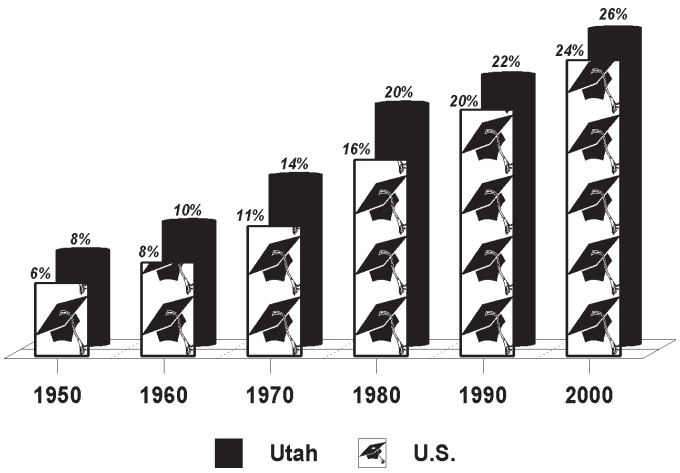
Throughout this time, Utah showed much better figures than did the United States as a whole. In 1950, only one-third of the U.S. population could claim to be high school graduates (compared to half of Utah's residents). The gap did narrow somewhat over the years. In 2000, 80 percent of the U.S. population registered in the "high school diploma" or better category.

In 2000, Morgan and Summit counties boasted the highest Utah high school graduation rate at 93 percent. San Juan showed the lowest level of high school diploma attainment—only 70 percent.

College Capers

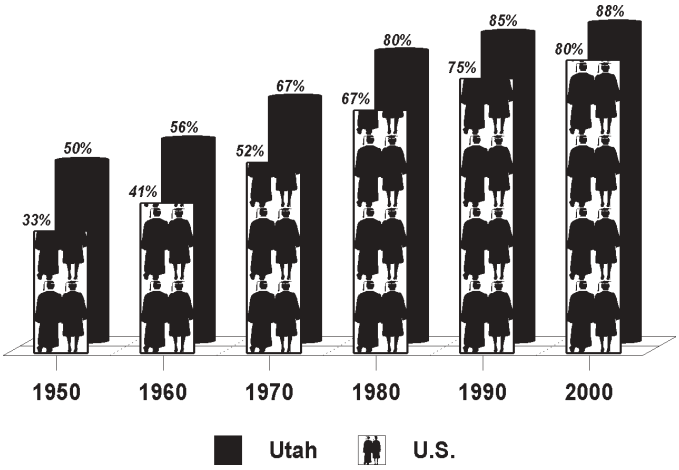
In 1950, only 8 percent of Utahns had received at least a Bachelor's degree. By the year 2000, 26 percent of Utah's residents could claim ownership of a four-year college degree.

Population 25 & Over with at Least a Bachelor's Degree



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Population 25 & Over with at Least a High School Diploma



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

Again, Utahns have showed better college graduation rates than their U.S. counterparts. The gap got particularly large in the 70s and 80s. In 1980, only 16 percent of U.S. adults had Bachelor's degrees compared to 20 percent for Utah. However, in 1990, the gap narrowed and remained steady in 2000. While we can't track detailed Census 2000 data yet, the 1990 change occurred because U.S. women closed the college education gap on Utah women. In other words, Utah women failed to increase their college graduation rates as rapidly as did U.S. women.

Summit County tops the list of highly educated Utah counties. In 2000, 46 percent of the county's adults could boast of at least a Bachelor's degree. Utah and Cache counties lagged behind with 32 percent. Carbon, Juab, Beaver, Daggett, and Emery counties landed at the bottom of the heap with only 12 percent college graduates.

For more information about educational attainment, check out:
www.census.gov

To Sample or Not to Sample. .

that is the question~

by Austin Sargent

What is the difference between the Census and sample surveys? The Census counts state populations every ten years to determine the representation of each state in the U.S. House. Congress has also directed that other social and economic information be gathered at the same time. The Census goes to great lengths to count every individual in the United States. It is a large and costly undertaking and takes a long time to process the information.

A drawback is that while the Census provides a wealth of information, it only occurs once every decade. Sample survey work is frequently used to augment information in a timely manner. Statistically valid sample surveys take a "representative" slice of a larger group. For example, at the Department of Workforce Services we use sampling procedure in developing the occupation wage data. We don't survey all establishments, only a representative sample. The sample should maintain the key characteristics of the larger group. Well-designed samples are also costly and time consuming, though much cheaper than a census (counting everyone).

It is critical to insure that when a survey is designed it reflects the profile of the larger group. Each member of the sample should have an equal chance at being selected to participate – known as randomness. Good sample survey work will include statistical tests and describe the methodology used to collect the data. Sample surveys, done correctly; provide statistically valid estimates of the information being surveyed.

Utah Census Snapshot

Total population: *2,233,169*

Population of one race: *2,185,974*

White alone: *1,992,975*

Black or African-American alone: *17,657*

American Indian and Alaska Native alone: *29,684*

Asian alone: *37,108*

Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander alone: *15,145*

Some other race alone: *93,405*

Population of two or more races: *47,195*

Average household size: *3.13*

Average family size: *3.57*

Total households: *701,281*

Households with one or more people under 18: *321,108*

Female householder, no husband present, with own children under 18: *40,329*

http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/49000.html

Who are We? A National Census Profile

by Mark Knold

The United States is the third most populous country on Earth (behind China and India). Even so, it comprises less than 5 percent of the world's population and accounts for an even smaller fraction of the global increase. During the decade of the 1990s, the United States' population grew by 13 percent. This change is five times the average percentage increase of other industrialized countries during the same period.

Census 2000 showed that the United States population was 281.4 million. Of this number:

- 72.3 million, or 26 percent of the U.S. population, were under age 18.
- 174.1 million, or 62 percent, were age 18 to 64.
- 35.0 million, or 12 percent, were age 65 and over.
- The largest 5-year age group was 35-to-39 year olds with 22.7 million, representing 8.1 percent of total population.
- The 50-to-54-year age group experienced the largest per centage growth at 55 percent.
- Median age increased from 32.9 in 1990 to 35.3 in 2000.
- 75.1 percent reported White as their race.
- 12.3 percent reported Black or African-American as their race.
- 3.6 percent reported Asian as their race.
- 9.0 percent reported some other race.
- 12.5 percent reported Hispanic as their ethnic group.

The Guest Room

Want some Census Data?

Census Bureau Touts New Data Delivery System

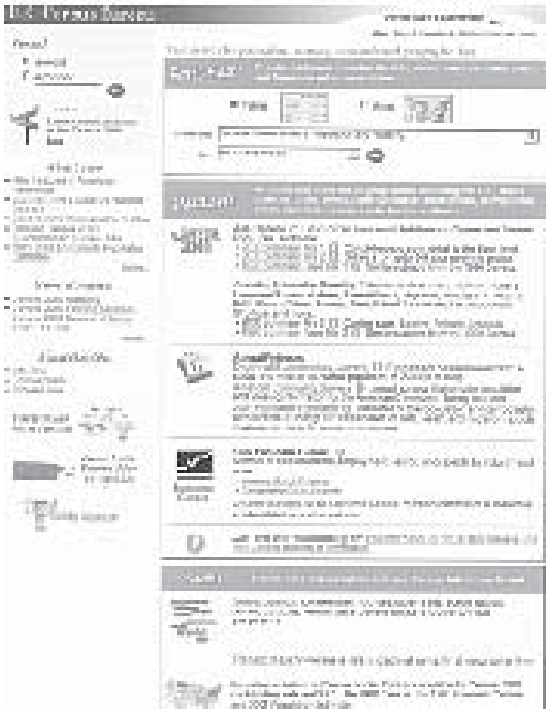
by Jerry O'Donnell

The U.S. Census Bureau is releasing a variety of data products using many formats, including Internet, CD-Rom, DVD, and paper. With the development of new technology, it's much easier to work with Census 2000 data. The Census Bureau has always been a leader among U.S. Government agencies in putting information on-line.

It's new

To do this, the Census Bureau has created The American FactFinder (AFF) website– http://factfinder.census.gov.

The AFF system is a great Internet tool for pulling up Census 2000 demographic



profiles of states, counties and cities. Demographic profiles (DP) provide the most widely used Census 2000 data. The profiles are organized in four reports and contain data on basic population and housing characteristics, school enrollment, education, workforce, commuting to work, disability, income and poverty status.

In addition, the American FactFinder offers easy access to other Census 2000 data, the latest Economic Census on business and industry, population estimates, the American Community Survey (annual survey that provides current population data for communities), and the historical data from the 1990 census. American FactFinder has revolutionized the way the Census Bureau releases its data. About 90 percent of the census results were in print in 1990, but only 10 percent of Census 2000 data products will be available in that form. American FactFinder will allow the Census Bureau to disseminate more data to more users faster than before.

It's easy

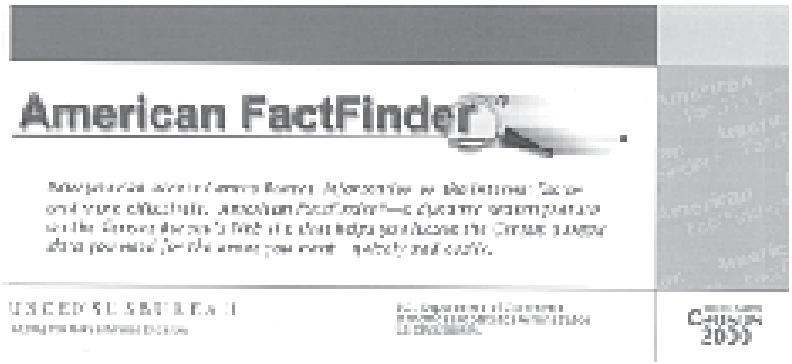
American FactFinder makes it easier for you to choose a pathway to data and create tabular and geographic selections. You can then display, print and download the data you need. From the AFF main page you may chose basic facts containing popular tables and maps, select data sets providing access to all tables and maps, and create a customized thematic map.

It's fast

American FactFinder also has a dynamic search feature to help you locate data by key words, geographic area, or street address (links to small census geography areas such as census tract and block group). There are hundreds of Census Bureau data products available on the Internet including press releases, statistical abstracts, census briefs, and information bulletins. To locate these products in American FactFinder, click Search and enter a key word. The list of results will contain Census Bureau products related to data in the AFF system. American FactFinder is relatively easy to use, but at times you may need a little extra help. Clicking on Help will provide several tutorials on using the system.

It's free

The American FactFinder is a fast, free, and easy Internet tool for all data users. Locating the material you need from the wealth of social, demographic, and economic data available from the U.S. Census Bureau has never been simpler. There are thousands of statistics and hundreds of special topics from which to choose, and there are no passwords or fees required.



Nonurban Focus

The Other Utah

by Lecia Parks Langston

Who spends the longest time getting to work? Is it the “country mouse” or the “city mouse?”

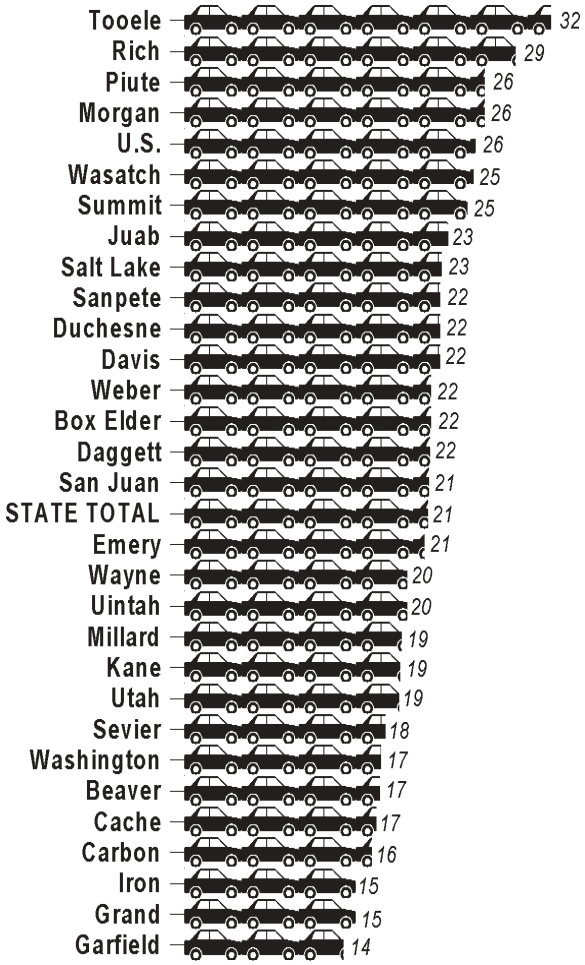
Recently released Census 2000 data reveals how much time Utah workers spend getting to their place of employment. You might suppose that city workers spend the most time on the road. Just think of all that time sitting in traffic jams or at traffic lights. And, I-15 reconstruction was in full bloom during April 2000. Must be the city mouse.

On the other hand, there might be a contingent that believes nonurban workers have a longer commute. After all, there’s lots of open space between towns outside the Wasatch Front. Plus, as the cities have become more congested, workers have moved to more “rural” counties but have kept their urban jobs making that commute even longer. Must be the country mouse.

Yesterday and Today

On the other hand. . .wait, forget the other hand! Just look at the data. Truthfully, there isn’t a clear pattern. However, Utah workers are spending more time in their vehicles than previously. In 1990, the average Utah employee spent 19 minutes going to work compared to 21 minutes in 2000.

2000 Mean Travel Time to Work for Workers 16 and Older



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

The good news? Most Utah workers spend less time on the road than their U.S. counterparts. The average Utah employee spends 21 minutes driving to work, while the average U.S. worker spends an additional five minutes in traffic. Only four counties (Tooele, Rich, Piute, and Morgan) show higher commute times than the U.S. average. Pity the poor Tooele County workers with a 32-minute commute.

The Long Way Home

You'll notice that all four of these counties are from the "nonurban" category. In general, the nonurban counties with high levels of *inter-county* commuting show the highest going-to-work times. For example, many Tooele County residents commute from their homes to jobs in Salt Lake County. Apparently, these folks have traded a longer commute for the benefits of living in a nonurban setting.

Taking a Shortcut

Nevertheless, the counties with the shortest commute time are also drawn from the "nonurban" category. Iron, Grand, and Garfield County residents all have average commute times of 15 minutes or less.

In fact, only one "urban" county (Utah County with an average of 19 minutes) shows a commute time shorter than the state average. The average time-on-the-road for the majority of urban county workers falls in a tight little group between 22 and 23 minutes.

- ✓ **Wells' Dairy Inc. has broken ground on a $40 million ice cream processing manufacturing facility that is expected to be operating next June in St. George. The facility will eventually employ up to 70 workers.** ***Deseret News, 6/8/02***
- ✓ **The Cedar City Council has decided to go forward with a $1.6 million project to bring a railroad spur to the city's industrial complex.** ***The Spectrum, 7/2/02***
- ✓ **Representatives from Smith and Sons Meat Packing appeared before the Sanpete County Planning Commission to propose using nearly 315 acres southeast of Centerfield for a meat packing plant. The company would employment approximately 100 workers.** ***Gunnison Valley News, 7/3/02***

For more information about Utah's nonurban counties, check out:
http://jobs.utah.gov/wi ***then click on "State, County and Local Information"***

For more information on worker commuting times, check out:
www.census. gov

unique Utah

Information from the 2000 Census

by John T. Mathews

All about Age

Of all 50 states, Utah has the youngest population. The median age (half of the population older and half younger) for the U.S. is 35.3 years. Utah's "middle age" is only 27.1, or just three-fourths of the U.S. Almost half of Utahns are under 25 as contrasted to the just over 1/3 of the nation's population.

Nearly half – 46 percent – of Utah households have persons under 18 in them. At the national level, that number is only 36 percent.

Reflecting its young population, Utah's proportion of older people is much smaller than the U.S. – eight percent of Utah inhabitants are 65+ with 12 percent of the nation falling in that category.

Utah's population is aging. In 1990, 77 percent of the population was younger than 35, by 2000, only 61 percent fell in that same age span.

In General

Utah has proportionately fewer females (49.9 percent) than the U.S (50.9 percent) where women actually outnumber men (because women live longer than men).

Over the decade of the 1990s, Utah's population grew, on average, at 1.6 percent per year compared to the nation at 1.2 percent per year.

Race and Ethnicity

Utah's racial/ethnic composition is unique - much less diverse than the nation.

In Utah, 89 percent of the population is white, compared to 75 percent in the U.S.

Black or African Americans account for just 0.8 percent of Utah's total population. At the national level 12.3 percent of the population is Black or African American.

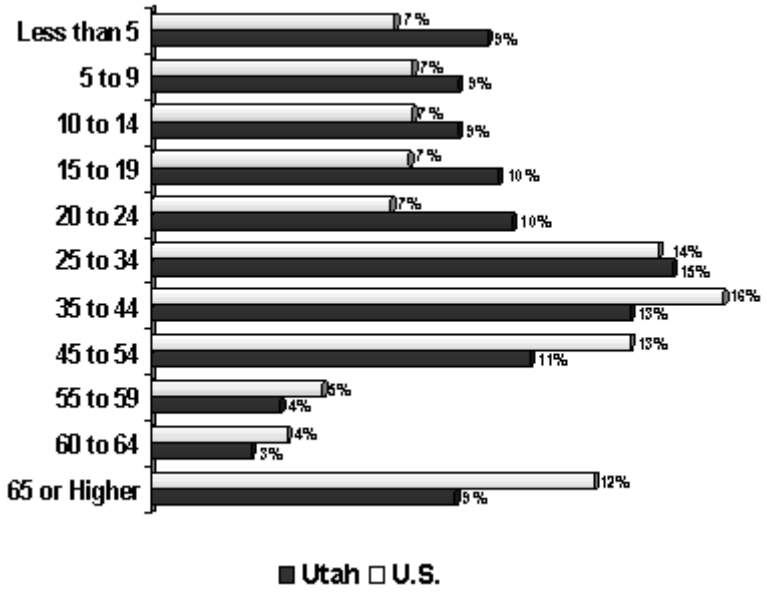
By far, the Hispanic population, at 9 percent, is Utah's largest minority group. In the U.S., 12.5 percent is Hispanic.

In Utah, 1.7 percent of residents are of Asian decent, half of this group's national figure of 3.6 percent.

American Indian and Alaska Natives occupy a 1.3 percent slice of Utah's population. Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders claim 0.7 percent of the total. In fact, these two groups in Utah have a higher percentage of the population than the nation as a whole. Nationally, the proportions are 0.9 percent and 0.1 percent respectively.

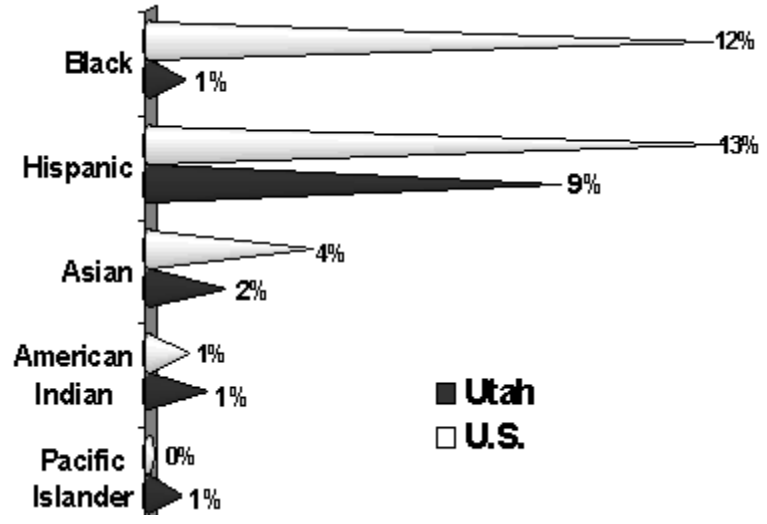
For more information on Utah from Census 2000, check out:
www.census. gov

2000 Population Age Distribution



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

2000 Racial and Ethnic Share of Population



Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

When it Comes to Careers. . . You Have Choices™

by Kristine Dobson

Using Utah's Career Information Delivery System

Career explorers in Utah have a valuable ready-to-use tool to assist them across the "EXPLORE-PLAN-APPLY" process. *Utah Choices* is available in most high schools, in every Department of Workforce Services Employment Center (http://jobs.utah.gov/Regions/EC.asp), and other community agencies across the state.

The career planning process might be summarized as three types of activities within a never-ending cycle: Explore – Plan – Apply! As career planning is a lifelong process, you may have experienced one or more of these types of activities a number of times. If you had the advantage of using *Choices*, you might already understand the benefits. For example, you can "EXPLORE" your career interests, work values, and skills using a variety of assessments in Choices. Explore over 600 occupations – including information about skills requirements, average earnings, and state outlook. Explore over 7,000 schools that offer postsecondary training, and find sources of financial aid to support your education.

"PLAN" your post-high school courses using the "electronic portfolio" that enables you to identify the classes that best support your education and career goals. " APPLY" to your choice of postsecondary institutions via Internet hyperlinks and common electronic application forms. Apply for jobs listed on Utah's Job Bank with the support of a well-written résumé and improved interviewing skills.

- People in search of career information should consider using Utah's Career Information Delivery System (CIDS) – *Choices* and *eChoices*.

- Virtually every public high school student has access to *Choices* courtesy of their school.
- Other career explorers can use *Choices* at Department of Workforce Service employment centers.
- *eChoices* – the Internet version of our CIDS – can be accessed using a code available from licensed sites.
- These programs can help you find education and training that best match your needs and wants.
- You can also learn about the occupations to which you're most suited based on the characteristics you choose.
- Other tools offered in *Choices* and *eChoices* include assessments, financial aid information, a résumé writer, and an electronic career portfolio.

For more information, you are welcome to contact Kris Dobson, Utah CIDS Directorr, email: (UTChoices@aol.com) or phone 1-800-733-7887.

Quick Facts

July 2002 Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Beaver	4.0%
Box Elder	5.7%
Cache	3.7%
Carbon	6.4%
Daggett	3.8%
Davis	4.2%
Duchesne	7.1%
Emery	8.1%
Garfield	11.6%
Grand	6.2%
Iron	4.2%
Juab	6.6%
Kane	3.5%
Millard	4.9%
Morgan	4.3%
Piute	7.8%
Rich	4.0%
Salt Lake	5.5%
San Juan	7.8%
Sanpete	6.2%
Sevier	4.8%
Summit	7.7%
Tooele	8.8%
Uintah	6.3%
Utah	4.9%
Wasatch	6.5%
Washington	3.7%
Wayne	5.5%
Weber	5.4%
Salt Lake-Ogden MSA	5.2%

Source: Utah Dept of Workforce Svcs.

Just the Facts. . .

			Change From Last Year
July 2002			
Utah Unemployment Rate	5.1%	↑	0.8 points
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.9%	↑	1.3 points
Utah Nonfarm Jobs (000s)	1,057.6	↓	-1.5%
U.S. Nonfarm Jobs (000s)	130,572.0	↓	-1.0%
June 2002			
U.S. Consumer Price Index	179.9	↑	1.1%
U.S. Producer Price Index	131.2	↓	-1.6%

Source: Utah Department of Workforce Services.

TrendLine

Did you know?

In 2000, about 2,900 Utah households lacked indoor plumbing.

Roughly 9,800 Utah students lived in college dorms.

About 6,900 Utahns were housed in nursing homes.

In Our Next Issue:

Income in Utah

New Poverty Data

Wages

The Male/Female Wage Gap

Juab County Focus

TrendLines is published bimonthly by the Utah Department of Workforce Services, Workforce Information Division. To read, download, or print this publication (free), see our internet site: *http://jobs.utah.gov/wi*. Click on "Publications" then select the publication you want from the drop-down menu. To obtain additional printed copies or to subscribe to TrendLines contact:

Department of Workforce Services
Attn: Workforce Information
140 East 300 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Telephone: **(801) 526-9786**
Fax: **(801) 526-9238**

Editors: **Kim Bartel (801) 526-9457**
Lecia Langston (435) 688-3115

All our publications are available in their entirety on our website:

http://jobs.utah.gov/wi

The mission of the Utah Department of Workforce Services is to provide quality, accessible, and comprehensive employment-related and supportive services responsive to the needs of employers, job seekers, and the community.

Utah!
Where ideas connect™

Utah's Job Connection

AMERICA'S WORKFORCE NETWORK

DWS-03-44-0902